

THE TULSA STAR

SUCCESSOR TO THE MUSKOGEE STAR

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EDITOR CHARGED WITH LIBEL!

Freeman L. Martin Makes Another Effort to Put The Star Out of Biz. County Attorney Refused to Prosecute

Martin Then Gets Permission and Files a Criminal Charge himself against the Editor of the Tulsa Star. Editor Is arrested but Is Immediately Surrounded by Friends Who Quickly Furnish bond and Legal Talent.

Another blow has been aimed at the editor of the Tulsa Star by Freeman L. Martin, of this city, and as a result the editor was arrested Thursday and taken into court on a charge of criminal libel, filed by Martin. The hopes of our prosecutor was to land the editor in jail and thus stop the circulation of the Star, because of an article which appeared in the paper last week publishing a few facts about him. But our friends, the better element of the colored citizens of Tulsa, manifested a spirit of loyalty and speedily made bond, that the Star might continue its fight for decency, honesty and against corruption of every kind. So the editor is still on the job and will proceed to convince the public that all we have said about Martin, and more, is true. The information filed by Martin alleges that the article in the Star of last week exposed him to public hatred, contempt, ridicule or obliquy and injured his business.

If The Star has exposed Martin to all of this, Martin himself has made it possible. There could be no exposure without something to expose, and in telling the public of the actions of Martin in his untoward conspiracy against us we maintain that we were within our rights, and justified in the premises.

We have not libeled him because every word in the article is true, and will be proven in open court. Both his actions and his words stand out in bold letters against him, and before this case is over the public will know all. The editor of this paper has never been guilty of libeling any one. We have never falsely or maliciously accused any one. We have never entered into a conspiracy of any kind against any one—not even our enemies—and we will never be guilty of any of these mean things. The better element of the citizens of Tulsa know the real source of our persecution and prosecution.

The Star stands for certain manly principles and we are opposed to any one who opposes these principles, hence our opposition to Freeman L. Martin.

Martin went to the County Attorney's office Tuesday with his charges, but the County Attorney after reading the article it is said, refused to prosecute the editor because he did not think the article justified the charges. Martin thereupon asked for permission to draw up the information, filed the same himself and will prosecute the case in court.

The editor was arrested at an early hour Thursday morning, and willingly went to the sheriff's office. Before he left the sheriff's office to go to the Superior court room a number of loyal friends, headed by some of the true leaders of this city, had gathered and

with Lawyer Guess as our attorney the editor was arraigned and bond fixed and signed and in a few minutes surrounded by these true friends the editor left the court room and returned to the editorial sanctum to continue in his fight against lawlessness, vice and corruption of all kinds.

The curtains are drawn and the light will be turned on in full blast. We will not resort to anything unmanly and untrue. Ever Martin is entitled to a square deal, and will get it from us.

Martin started this controversy when he entered into a conspiracy against us, and when he deliberately took from us that which belonged to us and lied about it. And now, because we dared to expose his acts he hauls us into court to answer to his unjust charges of criminal libel.

That the public may not forget, we reprint the article below for which we stand accused of criminal libel. Read it. Every word of it is true:

Two weeks ago it was announced in the editorial columns of this paper that another conspiracy against the editor was about to be unearthed and we served notice that the fireworks would be pulled off when all details were in.

This conspiracy was lower, baser, meaner and more cowardly even than the rumored conspiracy a few weeks ago to do personal violence to the editor. It was planned and entered into primarily by two men, one a sorehead ingrate who had been discharged as manager of this paper and the other an unscrupulous pedant, who had no other reason to seek and encourage the downfall of the Star and its editor than the general principles peculiar to his character. The former was W. H. Carter and the latter Freeman L. Martin.

Carter has circulated many evil and malicious falsehoods against the editor of this paper and tried in every manner he could to do all the harm possible. He was joined in his base undertaking by Freeman L. Martin, a local lawyer, whose name, even his picture, has often appeared in the columns of this paper besetting him at the expense of the editor. Together these two representatives went to Sapulpa two weeks ago for the express purpose of inducing Dr. Humphrey and Mr. Hutton to borrow money from the endowment department of the K. and L. of H. to buy the Star printing plant, circulating the false report that the Star had gone out of business and that they would buy it on. Their plan in this case, however, did not carry and they returned to Tulsa sadder but wiser phools.

There is no class of men worse than an ingrate and this W. H.

Carter has proved himself to be. The editor of The Star has in his possession letters from Carter while he was in Sedalia begging for a job and asking for money to come to Tulsa on. His request was granted and he came "all to the bad." Soon after his connection with The Star he began "conspiring and conniving" against the editor, his employer and benefactor, which resulted in his dismissal. After his he went about town circulating false reports respecting the editor. But the public has found him out and will consign him to the same fate that awaits all of his kind somewhere along the wayside.

Martin's connection with the conspiracy was for personal gain and notoriety, but his hopes in this case, like his erstwhile Haytian ambassadorship dream, went glimmering. The curtains are now drawn and Martin, the great leader, the race man, will be revealed to the public in his true colors. It is with much regret that we are thus drawn into this fight, but every man has a moral right to fight in self-defense and since our enemies have placed us in a false light it is our purpose to defend ourselves by showing our enemies in their true light that the public may know the full truth.

We are loath to say that Lawyer Martin, in our opinion, is a disgrace to the profession he follows because he is not an honorable man; a menace to the community for the same reason, and a traitor to his race.

He pretends to be a race man but his actions belie his words.

About two weeks ago \$20.00 worth of printing was sent out from Sapulpa by Martin to the Tulsa Star. It was fraternal work for a secret order of which the Star is the official organ and supposed to do all the printing of said order in this State. Martin is a prominent figure in the ranks of this order and had been half the MAN that he pretended to be and swore he would be to become a member of the order he would have delivered the work to the Tulsa Star. Even had not the editor belonged to the same order and his paper not the official organ, he would have delivered the work to us had he been true to manly principles.

But instead he took the work to a white printing office where not even a colored janitor is employed after telling the editor that he had it and would deliver it to him. The editor called at his office for it and he mistated facts by representing that he had returned the copy to Sapulpa when he knew full well it was at that time in another shop here in town. We leave it to the public whether this was the action of an honorable race man.

There is no excuse that he can offer which will excuse his actions in this unjust and malicious conspiracy. We are not publishing this because we feel "sore" because we did not get what was justly ours, but because we want the public to know why Martin and Carter are circulating false reports about the Star. If either Martin or Carter desire to reply to this article the columns of this paper are open to them.

This now is the calibre of the men who are trying to discredit and retard the progress of The Star. We submit our case to the public on the merits alone and we are willing to abide by the verdict.

**JACK JOHNSON
A FRENCHMAN**

Pugilist Files Petition for Citizenship Papers in Paris.

Paris, Aug. 20.—Jack Johnson wants to become a real Frenchman. Through his counselors the champion heavy-weight pugilist today filed declaration of his intentions to become a French subject.

Obnoxious House to Go

The house at 216 East Archer is doomed to go. The assurance comes from the Chief of Police, who has taken an active part in trying to improve public morals in this city.

The Star will now go into true pending renovation of this house, which is a white sporting house in a respectable colored community, surrounded by little children who are contaminated and debauched by evil examples.

The Star is asking that this house be rid of white prostitutes the same as it was black ones, and it will be done, because Chief Yoder is a man of his word.

Dry Farming Congress Notes

Colored Building for Exhibits at Dry Farming Congress

The executive committee of Colored Dry Farming Association met in this city Tuesday and completed arrangements with the local Board of Control for the building and grounds to be set aside for the exclusive use of colored people who plan to put on exhibits at the International Dry Farming Congress, which meets in this city in October. A plot of ground 100x100 feet just inside the main entrance was given the committee on which a building 60x60 feet will be erected at once, and new interest will now be boosted up among the colored farmers in order that they may make a credible showing. The executive committee consists of Inman E. Page, president of the association, H. A. Guess, J. P. Stradford, W. L. McKee and S. L. James. Mr. Guess is chairman of the committee on concessions. A mass meeting will be called in this city for the purpose of creating a lively interest in the coming event and at least 1,000 circular letters will be mailed out to farmers in this state by the executive committee. Every farmer in the state should take a personal interest in this great congress, international in its scope, and profit all he can while it is here. The colored farmers will doubtless acquit themselves with credit.

Colored Man Has Been Named

President Wilson Nominates a Prominent Indiana Physician for U. S. Minister to Liberia

The name of Dr. Geo. W. Buckner, a colored man of Evansville, Ind., was sent to the Senate by President Wilson last week to be confirmed as the new ambassador to Liberia, the colored republic on the south coast of Africa. Dr. Buckner was recommended for the position by Secretary of State William J. Bryan, and his confirmation is already conceded.

NATIONAL PETITION AGAINST JIM CROW

And Color Segregation by the Federal Government.

Read, citizens, sign your names and address and mail to the editor of this paper. Get several names.

Petition.
States, Hon. Woodrow Wilson, White House, Washington, D. C.

Sir: This is to certify that we, the undersigned, are surprised and indignant that under your administration there should be any rules made by members of your cabinet to segregate employees of the national government by race or color. We protest against this as a plain insult, public degradation, and insufferable injury to colored Americans, the establishment of caste in this free republic. We petition you to reverse, prevent, and forbid any such movement by your bureau chiefs, in accord with your promise of fair, friendly, just and Christian treatment of your fellow citizens.

Name _____
Address _____
Name _____
Address _____
Name _____
Address _____

Boy Scouts

Addressed by U. S. Army Man

A few months ago the Star took up the question of organizing a company of Colored Boy Scouts, and agitated it continually. Some said it could not be done, but Tulsa has lived to see a real company of colored Boy Scouts organized and in active service, under the leadership of Captain Taylor. Last Tuesday night N. Armstrong of the U. S. army addressed the boy scouts at the A. M. E. church, and a new interest has been aroused. Boys who join the company will be given free the carpenters or blacksmith trade.

High School Soon Be Ready

The contract for the erection of the new high school building for colored people in the East end has been let and the work on the new structure will be in full blast in a few days. The building will add much to the appearance of this end of town and will relieve the congestion of the schools.

WANTED
Information Regarding
Farm or Business
For sale. Not particular about location. Wish to hear from owner only who will sell direct to buyer. Give price, description and state when possession can be had. Address, L. DARTMOUTH, Box 5999, Richmond, N. Y.